Rationalisation of Imports

848. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are working out a new strategy for boos-tling the country's exports in the tit of the new export-import policy which seeks to further rationalise imports;

(b) whether any discussion was held on the 20th April, 1988 with the Expert Promotion Councils, Cham bers of Commerce and Commodiity Boards to chalk out export promotion asures; and

(c) if so what were the other sug gestions discussed at the meeting and what steps have been taken to boost exports in the light thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) The export strategy is constantly reviewed and modified as appropriate keeping in vliew domestic and international factors. The provisions of the new Import-Export Policy for 1988—91 are in line with the export strategy.

(b) and (c) At the meeting held on 21st April, 1988 with Export Promotion Councils, Chambers of Commerce and Commodity Boards etc. discussions were held mainly for preparation of unit level export action plans by exporters for increasing exports. A series of meetings is being held with individual units to follow up on the action plans submitted by them.

Aerial Seeding of Forest Areas in Orissa

849. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state;

(a) what steps the Central Government have taken for the aerial seeding of forest areas in Orissa;

(b) whether any such aerial seeding has been done so far; and

(c) whether the Central Government have any programme for aerial seeding of forest areas in Orissa at regular intervals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIV-RAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) The State Government had carried out aerial seeding on an experimental basis in 1985-86 and 1986-87. As the results were not found encouraging, it has. not been continued since.

Inflation in Metropolitan Cities

850. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOW-DHURY; Will the Minister of FI NANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the four metropolitan cities in India have not only nested double digit inflation during the twelve month en ding April, 1988 but also registered higher rate than the All India Ave-5 of 10.4 per cent of the period,

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OP FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FA-LEIRO); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The All India index j3 based on average of 50 centres, and while